

# Feldman pushes on despite brain cancer diagnosis

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**SHAKER HTS.** — Dan Feldman has fought back against his brain cancer and feels great, thanks to support from The Gathering Place.

Feldman, 39, was diagnosed with glioblastoma multiform brain cancer in May 2010. He said it's probably one of the more common types of primary brain cancers, but it is also known as one of the most lethal. He was told with the best treatment, his survival rate was 14 months. But, 14 months later, he is still going strong.

When Feldman, his wife and three young children, 3, 5 and 1, were told of his diagnosis, he said it was a shock to their lives and a huge change



in their worlds. He said The Gathering Place has become a huge part of his family's life in dealing with his diagnosis.

"I first started engaging (The Gathering Place) during a weekly support group for people with cancer. It was early in my diagnosis and it was a way for me to talk about it and grasp what I was going through in a safe and under

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**Dan Feldman of Shaker Heights was diagnosed with brain cancer 14 months ago, yet is still going strong today.**

# FELDMAN

From A1

standing environment," he said.

"The people I met there have been unbelievable and the help they gave me from hearing their stories, the encouragement from them and the little tips on this and that about cancer have been extraordinary."

Feldman said he always leaves the group with higher spirits. Not only does the family frequent its location in Beachwood for the occasional pizza picnics in the garden and to let the kids run around and play, but Feldman also goes to The Gathering Place for yoga and other exercise classes.

"I'm a young guy doing yoga, but going to the class and seeing a woman in her 80s doing it in a chair because she can't get on the floor is an amazing thing," he said. "The Gathering Place does span all the diseases, which you come to know are very different and there are different diagnoses."

He said his family has also taken part in the counseling services offered through The Gathering Place.

"Just talking to young children about what's happening with dad can be a tough thing. (The counseling) has been invaluable. It helps me and the family cope with this dis-

## Wiley Challenge Choir performs spring concert

**UNIVERSITY HTS.** — The award-winning Wiley Middle School Challenge Choir will perform in its spring vocal music concert at 7 p.m. June 1 in the school's auditorium, 2181 Miramar Blvd.

The choir recently returned from the 2011 Music Showcase Festivals Choir Competition in Atlanta with seven first-place trophies, including one for Best Overall Middle School Choir.

The concert is free. Call (216) 371-7270.

## Race for Place set for June 5

The 11th Annual Race for the Place, a benefit for the Gathering Place, will take place at 9 a.m. June 5 at Beachwood Place, 26300 Cedar Road, Beachwood. The event is in celebration of National Cancer Survivors Day. Sun News is the media sponsor.

Both a 5K and 1-mile run/walk will be offered. The day also features family events at the Celebration Village, starting at 8 a.m.

The Gathering Place and its local centers provide support for those with cancer, as well as their family and friends.

For more information on Race for the Place or to register for the event, visit [touchedbycancer.org](http://touchedbycancer.org) or call (216) 595-9546.

ease," Feldman said.

Before being diagnosed, Feldman made toys for Little Tikes and Crayola. Since then, Feldman decided to start his own company which he plans to call "Glio," after the name of his cancer. He said it will be a company that adds the "fun" in fundraising for non-profit organizations. He's still writing his business plan, but he wants to leave some sort of financial stability and a legacy for his children.

"When I got the diagnosis, one thing that became evident was that I needed my life's work to have more meaning and to leave a legacy for my children, so that when I am gone, they get older and ask 'what was daddy like,' there was a business that pointed to my values and practicality," he said.

Feldman is on a phase 2 clinical trial treatment. After a complete resection, all of his cancer was removed and he is doing very well.

"All the things I talk about, like being tired and having no energy — they suck, but I'm alive," he said.